

## EASTLAKE MAY BE DOOMED BY OWN LITTLE DAUGHTER'S TESTIMONY

## LIFE HANGS ON CHILD'S EVIDENCE

Trial Starts Tuesday—Resort Hotels Opened to Care for Throng of Curious.

By KIRK C. MILLER.  
Times Staff Correspondent.  
MONTROSS, Va., Dec. 12.—Legal machinery will start grinding tomorrow in the humble little Westmoreland county courthouse here in an effort to unravel a murder mystery so revolting and diabolical in its hideous aspects that it might well be ascribed to the Hatchet Men of Chinatown in some Tong warfare or underworld opium feud.

Roger D. Eastlake, thirty-two, chief

petty officer, U. S. N., goes on trial for the slaying of his wife, Margaret, at their Colonial Beach home shortly before daybreak on September 30, last. The victim was found lying on her kitchen floor with twenty-nine gashes in her face and shoulders.

Immediately after Eastlake's alleged connection with the crime is established, Miss Sarah E. Knox, forty-seven years old, Johns Hopkins University graduate trained nurse, will go on trial, she having been jointly held with Eastlake for participation in the crime.

Both Eastlake and the Knox woman have been awaiting trial in the Richmond city jail since the fourth day following their arrest. At first they were detained in the county jail here, later being taken to the Fredericksburg jail and then to Richmond. At the time of the crime feeling ran so high in Westmoreland and Spotsylvania counties that it was deemed best to remove the prisoners further away from the scene of the murder.

Children Tell of Events.  
Believing the presence here of Eastlake, his mother, brother, and sister, who have been taken to him since his incarceration, interest is focused on the two minor children of Eastlake, Ruth, five years old, and Roger D., Jr., seven years of age, whose testimony is expected to be the turning point of the evidence which the prosecution hopes to adduce against their father.

Little Ruth is said to be almost an eye-witness to the slaying of her mother, she having told neighbors that "her father, dressed in a long, black raincoat, pushed her away from the kitchen door when she was awak-

## Manufacturer Warns U. S. Of Competition From Germany

Within a few months, unless Congress establishes a sufficient protective tariff, American manufacturers, for their own business salvation, will have to establish plants in Germany or quit, is the opinion of William E. Walker, president of an American manufacturing concern, who recently arrived in New York from Europe. Mr. Walker has been studying conditions in Germany for several months.

Engaged in a common and ran through the house seeking the protection of her mother. She has said that her father shoved her back from the door saying, "You can't see your mother now."

These words, uttered to neighbors through baby lips are part of the depositions taken by the prosecution on the morning of the crime and are expected to weigh heavily on the scale of justice here.

Changes Story.  
Since that time, Ruth's story has changed to one in which she disclaims having seen her father. Young Roger is expected to shed much light on the incidents leading up to the discovery of his mother's body by Miss Knox, who claims to have been on the premises for the purpose of paying an early-morning call upon Mrs. Eastlake. Miss Knox alleges that she discovered Mrs. Eastlake's form lying on the kitchen floor, after she had seen somebody in a dark coat leave the porch of the Eastlake home and escape over the back fence. She told authorities she became suspicious on seeing a crouching figure leave the house as she approached, and that she knocked on the front door for admittance. Receiving no response, she claiming to have entered unattended and after learning what had happened, dressed the little Eastlake children and took them to a neighbors, not, however, before spreading the alarm.

Nurse's Explanation Disputed.  
Miss Knox's explanation is disputed in nearly every particular. It is a matter of conjecture just how much of the evidence from the juvenile lips of the Eastlake children will be admitted and what weight it will carry with the jury.

Meanwhile, the boy and girl have been in the custody of their uncle, the Rev. Thomas Yardley, of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Catonsville, Md., who is the husband of Mrs. Eastlake's only sister. They were permitted to leave Westmoreland county in charge of their uncle only under a heavy bond and under the condition that they would not be allowed to converse with any of Eastlake's relatives up to and including the time of his trial.

His Clothes Found in River.  
At the time the death of Mrs. Eastlake was revealed to Colonial Beach residents through Miss Knox, Eastlake was about to board a launch to go to his employment at Dahlgren Naval Station, Va. Many of the officers and enlisted personnel of the Government proving grounds have their homes at Colonial Beach and in order to reach their duties it is necessary to maintain a ferry service between Colonial Beach and Dahlgren.

This boat leaves the wharf at 6 o'clock and Eastlake was already aboard when a neighbor rushed up to summons him back home and inform him of his wife's demise. He

protested his innocence then and has continued to do so until now. On one occasion only, has he said that he believed Miss Knox knew who killed his wife. His bloody clothes were dragged from the Potomac river three days following the murder.

Colonial Beach authorities have stated that Mrs. Eastlake had asked them to keep Miss Knox away from the resort and to hinder her from visiting her husband while he was at work at Dahlgren. Papers revealing financial obligations between the Eastlakes and Miss Knox were found in Miss Knox's possession and letters referring to "framing a plot" are also in the hands of the prosecution.

Speculation as to the use of opiates by one or both of the defendants was aroused by the finding of a quantity of narcotics in the handbag of Miss Knox. Hypodermic needles and a syringe were also revealed in her pocketbook. The fiendish character of the killing of Mrs. Eastlake with a hatchet which was found in the outer yard of her home brings up the association with similar deeds committed by addicts to drugs and altogether lends a horror to this particular murder which has probably not been equaled in Virginia's criminal annals.

Brilliant Minds in Case.  
Engaged in the legal conflict over which Judge Joseph W. Chinn will preside, will be some of the keenest minds of the Virginia bar. Assisting Commonwealth's Attorney Watt T. Mayo, the Hon. Thomas L. Hunter, of the Virginia House of Delegates, of King George county, and Charles W. Moss, of Richmond, will prosecute the case against Miss Knox and Eastlake, while defending them will be William W. Butzner, F. M. Chichester, and F. W. Coleman, of Fredericksburg, and Harry M. Smith, Jr., of Richmond.

So much attention has been attracted to the case that living accommodations for the principals in the impending courtroom battle have been exhausted in Montross and a bus line has been established to Colonial Beach where many of the summer hotels have been reopened to care for visitors attending the trial.

Many Witnesses Called.  
The witnesses summoned by the prosecution are Mrs. Hugh Goyt, C. A. Heineken, Mrs. M. Walker, D. A. DeHaley, Thomas Howe, Dr. W. L. Brent, Mrs. L. V. McKinney, W. P. Billingsley, T. K. Boulward, W. V. Caruthers, Mrs. W. V. Caruthers, Paul Drinks, Mrs. Paul Drinks, W. T. Hall, Hugh Goyt, T. J. McKinney, all of Colonial Beach; F. S. Fitzhugh, Dr. V. O. Carothers, of Newport News; T. J. Neve, Dr. John Duff, of Dahlgren.

The defense witnesses are Franklin Caruthers, J. T. Jones, Capt. B. Robey, Mrs. H. A. Goyt, Mrs. Mazie Caruthers, William Caruthers, Mrs. Grace Ashton, Mrs. Helen B. Miller, Capt. Harry Miller, Mrs. M. L. Griffith, all of Colonial Beach; Lieut. J. H. Green, John Duff, Jr., T. J. Nevitt, Capt. Eldon Hayden, Thomas Payne, John B. Berry, J. T. Mahoney, Chester Bates, Robert M. Bordman, Edward A. Cumberland, John P. Zimmer, of Dahlgren; C. B. Goodrich, S. T. Perry, of Fredericksburg; W. H. Taughn, Charles Bowie, F. M. Gravis, W. T. Hallaway, C. P. Hicks, of Caroline county.

CANADIAN OFFICIAL ENDS LIFE BY TAKING POISON  
OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—R. E. Rourke, controller of currency in the Dominion government, took his life last night by swallowing poison.

The controller's office is the highest post in the Canadian department of finance under civil service regulation.

## ARMY IS 50,000 SHORT FOR U. S. SAFETY, CLAIM

Chief of Staff Declares at Least 200,000 Needed as Minimum Strength.

The United States army is now 50,000 below the minimum strength required for national safety, according to the declaration of the chief of staff of the army in his annual report made public today.

The "irreducible minimum" strength of the regular army, "consistent with public safety," the chief of staff asserted, is 200,000, exclusive of Philippine scouts, and even that number diminishes to a considerable extent the national protection provided for the United States under the present military defense system.

Forty thousand troops are necessary for the protection of overseas possessions, including Porto Rico, Panama, Hawaii, the Philippines, Alaska, and China, the chief of staff explained. This does not include, however, forces necessary for manning coast artillery defenses which are estimated at 20,000, or twice the number provided for under present plans for limiting the army to 150,000 men.

The air service requires a minimum of 11,500 men, the chief of staff asserted, and he would like to see this number increased. Such a limitation leaves practically no air personnel available for use in the very important work of forest patrol, he added.

The number of cavalry necessary for the United States is placed at 12,500, most of which is required for the patrol of the Mexican border, the report states.

Summarizing these items, the chief of staff points out that 140,000 troops are necessary for foreign garrisons, special services, and the overhead of the army. In addition to these special troops, he asserts, there must be at least 60,000 combat troops held in readiness in the United States for any emergency which may arise.

In view of the great extent of the United States, he added, a few small combat organizations should be placed centrally in important sections of the country so as to provide Federal forces for serious local emergencies.

## METHODISTS HIT AT TUMULTY AS RUM ADVOCATE

Letter to Wilson Urging Veto of Wartime Prohibition Bitterly Assailed.

By International News Service.  
A scathing criticism of Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to the President in the Wilson Administration, for his self-confessed attempts to persuade Mr. Wilson to veto war-time prohibition, was made today by the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The board characterized some of Mr. Tumulty's recent utterances as "the most remarkable confession of futility and conceit ever put in print by a man importantly connected with American politics."

"It seems," said a board statement, "that on September 7, 1918, Tumulty addressed a letter to the President strongly urging veto of war-time prohibition. On May 9, 1919, he addressed the President a long and silly cable, presumably

paid for by the tax money of the people of the United States. "These communications were couched in a language which will be utterly astonishing to most people of this country. So anxious was Tumulty with regard to this matter that he sent various other cables, aggregating hundreds of words, while the President was in Paris."

"Probably Mr. Tumulty was responsible for several million of the 7,000,000 majority against the Democratic party at the last election. Tumulty represents that group among the Democrats which Americans simply will not tolerate in positions of responsibility."

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## ALEXANDRIA BUS LINE INCREASES FARE TO D. C.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 12.—The Alexandria Motor Bus Company, incorporated, today advanced the fare from Alexandria to Washington from 10 to 15 cents.

This road a few weeks ago put the price at 10 cents each way, but now state that it cannot make expenses with this fare, and have been forced to advance the price. When the price was reduced by the present company there were two other bus lines in operation, but they have both been forced into the hands of receivers since the price cut.

The Alexandria Motor Bus Company also announces that they will sell tickets of eight trips for one dollar and that later they will put on a fifty-two trip ticket for \$5.20 good for one month.

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